

## Andrew Jackson to James Monroe, March 6, 1815, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

### TO SECRETARY MONROE.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> War Dept. files; also a draft in Jackson MSS. See p. 170, n. 1, *ante*.

New Orleans, March 6, 1815.

*Sir*, Capt Shaw this day arrived here with your letter of the 13th Ult<sup>o</sup> covering several copies of an act of congress authorising the president of the United States to accept the services of state troops and Volunteers, and requesting me to endeavour to raise two Regiments of Volunteers under the provision of that act.

He also bore an open letter from the Post master genl. directed to Post masters, Contractors and others on the route to N. Orleans stating that Mr. Charles Bell the bearer of it, was charged with dispatches relative to the state of peace which had recently taken place between the United States and Great Britain, and requesting every facility to be afforded him on the route to this place.

This letter was of date the 14th Ult; and you may imagine my surprise after seeing it, to find in the Pacquet nothing but the letters and enclosures above mentioned. I still remain in uncertainty whether the exchange of the ratification has taken place, and am therefore greatly at a loss how to dispose of the militia now under my command. It is my intention however to discharge immediately those who have been called out en masse and to retain the Volunteers and drafted militia until the expiration of their term of service, which is near at hand,<sup>2</sup> or until I receive certain information that the Treaty has been ratified. I lament if this event has taken place, that the intelligence of it has not been officially communicated

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to me, as well on account of the inconvenience and hardship to the soldiery who must be longer detained, as of the expenses to the government.

2 Mar. 8 the Louisiana militia, levied en masse, were dismissed by a general order signed by the adjutant-general. *Niles' Register*, VIII. 123.

Since the enemy left this quarter it has been impossible to keep down entirely a spirit of disquietude and even of mutiny excited, as I am satisfied it has been by persons of no inconsiderable standing. I trust however that the measures I have pursued and shall continue to pursue for its suppression will prevent it from proceeding to any dangerous extent

I have the honor etc